

SUCCESSFUL FRUIT GROWING

- GROW YOUR OWN FIVE A DAY -

CULTIVARS

There are many cultivars to choose from which have been bred over hundreds of years. Many old varieties are still available because of their quality and reliability but modern breeding has given us longer seasons, disease resistance, improved flavour and smaller trees.

Apples:

- Dessert**
- **Cox's Orange Pippin**, probably the best known apple but difficult to grow.
 - **Christmas Pippin**, a new 'cox' type that is easy to grow.
 - **Discovery**, reliable early cultivar but does not store.
 - **James Grieve**, great flavour and easy to grow.
 - **Egremont Russet**, distinctive nutty flavour and keeps well.
 - **Braeburn**, newer cultivar which is easy to grow. Crisp and juicy. Oct - Feb.
 - **Fiesta**, Cox like but more disease resistant. Stores well.
- Culinary**
- **Bramley's Seedling**, the best cooker but requires two pollinators.

Pears:

- **Conference**, partially self fertile, juicy but firm. Stores quite well.
- **Williams Bon Chretien**, Great flavour but does not store.
- **Doyenne du Comice**, Outstanding flavour but more difficult to grow.
- **Concorde**, a new cultivar (1994). Good flavour and keeping quality.

Plums:

- **Victoria**, still the best plum for eating straight from the tree.
- **Pershore Yellow Egg**, a great local cultivar for cooking and preserves.
- **Marjorie's Seedling**, purple skin with sweet flesh for eating or cooking.
- **Herman and Stella** on **Pixy** rootstock are great where space is limited.

Damsons:

- **Merryweather**, the classic damson.
- **Shropshire** on **Pixy**, smaller and more manageable.

Peach:

- **Peregrine**, the best traditional peach with fine skin and juicy flesh
- **Terrace Diamond** and **Garden Lady** are both dwarf types.

Apricot:

- **Flavocot**, a new cultivar that performs well in our climate.
- **Aprigold**, a new dwarf apricot suitable for pot culture.

Nectarine:

- **Lord Napier**, traditional cultivar (1860) that ripens early.
- **Terrace Ruby**, a dwarf plant which can be pot grown.

Cherry:

- **Stella** on the dwarfing rootstock **Gisela 5** or semi-dwarfing **Colt**, a self fertile cherry with great flavour.
- **Morello** on **Colt**, the best acidic cherry for tarts on a manageable tree.

Fig:

- **Brown Turkey**, the best selling and most reliable fig.
- **Petite Nigra**, for a smaller plant that fruits well.

Walnut:

- **Broadview**, you will need plenty of space and a lot of patience!

Raspberries:

- **Tulameen & Glen Ample**, for a succession of summer berries.
- **Autumn Bliss**, fruits right through to November.
- **Ruby Beauty**, a new dwarf cultivar suitable for tub culture.

Blackberries:

- **Karaka Black**, produces giant fruits on manageable canes.
- **Chester Thornless**, crops well and is much less painful.

Hybrid berries:

- **Loganberry** is my favourite and makes great tarts.

Grapes:

- **Black Hamburg**, the most popular black grape.
- **Phoenix**, a newer white grape. Juicy & disease resistant.
- **Muscat Bleu**, a new black outdoor cultivar.

Blackcurrants:

- **Baldwin**, a traditional variety but superseded by
- **Ben Connan**, one of the newer cultivars to replace Baldwin.
- **Ben Hope**, another new cultivar resistant to big bud.

Redcurrants:

- **Laxton's No.1**, the standard cultivar for many years.
- **Jonkheer van Tets**, a new Dutch cultivar but the bush is large.

White currants:

- **White Versailles**, still the best white cultivar.

Gooseberries:

- **Invicta**, dessert / culinary, large green berries. Disease resistant.
- **Hinnomaki Yellow**, newer cultivar and mildew resistant.

Blueberries:

- **Bluecrop**, the most popular cultivar.
- **Patriot**, the bush is a little smaller than Bluecrop.

Strawberries:

- **Hapil**, an improvement on the traditional Cambridge Favourite.
- **Albion**, perpetual fruiting varieties which crops till October.
- **Flamenco**, a new perpetual cultivar. Large sweet fruits.

Rhubarb:

- **Victoria**, a good traditional cultivar.
- **Timperley Early**, great for forcing.

Melons:

- From seed each year. Need protection. **Galia** is a reliable F1 hybrid.